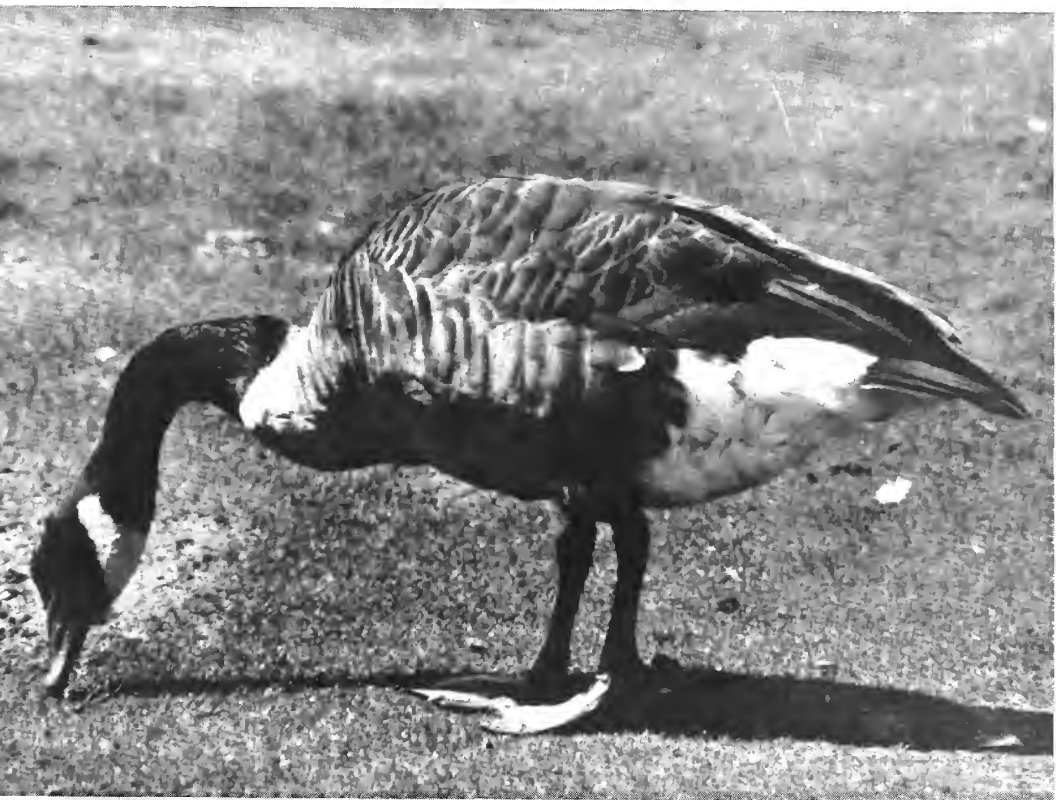


MARYLAND BIRDLIFE

Bulletin of the Maryland Ornithological Society, Inc.

Cylburn Mansion, 4915 Greenspring Ave., Baltimore 9, Md.



Volume 20

DECEMBER 1964

Number 4

THE MARYLAND ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY, INC.
Cylburn Mansion, 4915 Greenspring Ave., Baltimore, Maryland 21209

STATE OFFICERS

President:	Mrs. Edward Mendinhall, R. D. 2, Chestertown	778-0826
First V.P.:	Mrs. Richard D. Cole, 625 Valley Lane, Towson 4	VA3-2650
Second V.P.:	Dr. W. Rowland Taylor, 1540 Northbourne Rd., Balt. 12	ID3-1803
Treasurer:	Dr. Turner L. Smith, R. D. 2, Box 224, Chestertown	778-3691
Rec. Sec'y:	Mrs. Katherine Bauer, Royal Oak	RI5-2731
Exec. Sec'y:	Miss Mildred F. Cole, 4201 Belmar Ave., Balt. 6	HA6-0190

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

Mr. David Bridge	4310 Jefferson St., Hyattsville	927-0834
Miss Estella Everett	Bel Air	TE8-5835
Dr. Howard Hodge	436 W. Greenwood Rd., Linthicum Hgts.	ST9-3687
Mrs. Robert E. Kaestner	6005 Lakeshurst Dr., Baltimore 10	DE7-8990
Mr. Richard L. Kleen	St. Michaels	RI5-4821
Mr. Edward Mendinhall	R. D. 2, Chestertown	778-0826
Mrs. C. Gordon Taylor	75 Broadway, Frostburg	OV9-6791

STATE TRUSTEES

Allegany:	*Mr. Joseph Minke	Harford:	*Mrs. Grace H. Wright
	Mrs. C. Gordon Taylor		Miss Estella Everett
Anne Arundel:	*Mrs. Edwin C. Gras	Kent:	*Mrs. Edward Mendinhall
	Cmdr. E. P. Wilson		Mr. Edward Mendinhall
Baltimore:	*Dr. W. Rowland Taylor	Patuxent:	*Mr. Melvin Kleen
	Mrs. Richard D. Cole		Mr. David Bridge
	Mr. Compton Crook	Soldiers'	
	Mrs. Robert E. Kaestner	Delight:	*Dr. Elmer G. Worthley
	Mr. Chandler S. Robbins		Mrs. Bertha Poe
Caroline:	*Mr. Aldridge E. Pepper	Talbot:	*Mr. Richard L. Kleen
	Mrs. Aldridge E. Pepper		Mr. Robert Sharp II
Frederick:	*Mrs. Mary S. Motherway		
	Dr. Howard Hodge		

* Chapter President

Active membership (adults)	\$ 2.00 plus local chapter dues
Junior " (under 18 years)	.50 plus local chapter dues
Family membership	3.00 plus local chapter dues
Sustaining membership	5.00 plus local chapter dues
Life membership	100.00 (payable in 4 annual installments)
Out-of-state membership	2.00 (<u>MARYLAND BIRDLIFE</u> only)

CONTENTS, DECEMBER 1964

The Fortunate Apprentice	V. Edwin Unger	95
Buff-breasted Sandpiper at West Ocean City	Carl W. Carlson	97
Reminder		97
The Season--July, August, September, 1964	Chandler S. Robbins	103
Report of Audubon Nature Camp, Maine, 1964	Laddie Flyger	108
The President's Page	Dorothy A. Mendinhall	111
Early Goshawk, Frederick County	Carl W. Carlson	111
Baird's Sandpiper and Golden Plover	Carl W. Carlson	112
In Memoriam		112
Coming Events		113
Cover photograph of Canada Goose by Mel Garland		
Headings: Irving E. Hampe, Art Editor		



MARYLAND BIRDLIFE

*Published quarterly by the
Maryland Ornithological Society, Inc.
Cylburn Mansion, 4915 Greenspring Ave., Baltimore 9, Md.*

Volume 20

DECEMBER 1964

Number 4

THE FORTUNATE APPRENTICE

V. Edwin Unger

Fortunate is the beginning bander who can observe, study and practice under the tutelage of an accomplished ornithologist and experienced teacher. To be able to do so under the discerning eye and patient guidance of two such persons in succession, over a period of seven weeks, is a piece of fortune for which few of us dare to hope. Shortly after my banding permit was received, I learned of, and was advised to get acquainted with, Operation Recovery, a project soon to begin its 1963 season at Ocean City, Md. Thus it happened to me.

The project began on August 31, with Chan Robbins in charge. It was my presumption that for some time I would be an observer, but I was soon to learn that here only wheel-chair cases are observers. All others are helpers. So much the better; we learn by doing. At the end of the first day, Chan suggested that on the morrow I should bring my own bands and "go to work" (it never seemed like work to me). That day, and on twenty-five more days over the next seven weeks, I watched the sun peep over the ocean north of Ocean City as I drove to the banding station some fifty miles from home.

Activities began at dawn, but how time did fly! How zestful, this experience of learning the discipline under one with whom only the right way and perfection are "good enough"! What endless variety of species! That first day, I was privileged to band fifteen species, of which ten were warblers. Within a few days, the number of species for banding station would exceed one hundred.

My banding permit granted trapping privileges only, so prior to this time, I had no netting experience. Besides learning the art of removing birds from the net, I must learn the care of nets themselves; their erection, the keeping of proper tension; the replacing of rubber bands; the removal of leaves, beetles, and a bat or two; furling and unfurling; shaking off the dew, etc. Here Chan was meticulous, and how glad I was to be for such training when later I had to erect and tend nets at home on my own.

Of course, there was much more to learn. Some species were new to me, but otherwise familiar ones were so strange in their juvenal or in their fall plumages. So, to Peterson. to Roberts or Coues for help,

but these sources never failed. There was yet to be learned the art of ageing, sexing and weighing. Oh yes, one must learn to weigh -- carefully, accurately. The amount of fat is to be gauged, in many cases a matter of neat distinction. One must even learn how to place birds in and to take them out of the gathering boxes (a few birds escaped, to be sure). One learns such elementary things as to walk along the nets with the gathering box in the off-hand. Nothing is too trivial if it contributes to efficiency or to the welfare of the trapped birds.

As is the case in most endeavors, there are "big" days and days when activity is at a low ebb. One learns that weather and wind are the regulating factors. On "big" days, some of the nets must be furled to reduce the "catch" to a level where processing will not lag. Oh, for more help! On "slow" days, there may be time to alter net locations, or to erect additional nets; to improve walk-ways over soggy ground; to remove newly grown briars reaching up to snag the nets. Now and then a net must be mended (hawks, rabbits and deer, you know).

All these things Chan teaches without a trace of pedantry. He just does what is to be done and he tells you what he is doing - and why. When you err, he is ever so patient in his explanation and in his assistance. However, at the end of three weeks, he must leave and so he turns the station over to Gladys Cole.

I arrive the next morning to be greeted by my new mentor. She tries to frighten me by telling me she is a hard taskmaster, a martinet, a witch who will tolerate no laxity. She exaggerates. Her so-called faults are virtues, the worth of which I was soon to appreciate. What she failed to tell me was of her dedication to birds and banding and of her intense desire and effort to instill in others, especially youngsters, a similar appreciation. And so, for the next four weeks I was privileged to continue my apprenticeship under an accomplished and gracious instructor.

There were times when the sun was blistering; times when the early morning dew on the waist-high grasses was less than comfortable, and always there were mosquitoes, but every minute was enjoyable. More often than not, we had help and assistance. Many were banders and many were not. They came from nearby towns and counties, and from as far as Baltimore, Washington, Philadelphia, Cumberland and Wheeling. How helpful they were! Jim Baird came from Massachusetts and coached us on ageing by skull ossification. Arthur Singer, the noted artist paid us the honor of a visit, and folks from the Smithsonian Institution came to observe and stayed to work, helping us through one of our biggest days.

The days and weeks rolled by with an ever-changing pattern. For a day or two, there would be a predominance of Catbirds, then flickers, then Veeries and other thrushes. Later, came the juncos, the White-throats, and the Myrtle Warblers. Generally, a flight would be with us for today and then be gone the next morning, but the Brown Creepers stayed for days and dozens upon dozens were renetted time after time.

If time permitted, we adapted our netting locations and practices to the changing conditions. A newly found water-hole location quickly produced Swamp Sparrows, Savannah Sparrows and Cedar Waxwings. Other nets were elevated 12 feet above the ground and gathered a spate of Tree Swallows.

Rare specimens, amusing incidents and unusual events enlivened the days. A Painted Bunting, a Rufous Hummingbird, and a Clay-colored Sparrow were singular rewards. One day I discovered a Sharp-shinned Hawk in one of the nets. Lacking previous experience, I grasped the body of the bird with one hand and started to disentangle the net with the other. Instantly, the bird sunk her talons in the back of this free hand and I was trapped. To release the other hand, would expose me to the bird's beak, so I had to call for help. Can't you see the headlines, "Bird Traps Bander"? On one unforgettable day in October, Canada Geese were passing overhead in skein after skein with hardly an interruption, the fading symphony of a passing flight would hardly end before that of an approaching one would replace it, and on other occasions, the V's of a half dozen flights punctuated the visible sky.

Operation Recovery, 1964, is upon us (it may be over before these reflections appear in print) and our thoughts are turned ahead. We who participated in 1963 hope others will come in 1964; to observe, to lend a hand; to become imbued with the zest of learning; to be this year's "fortunate apprentices".

Federalsburg

BUFF-BREASTED SANDPIPER at WEST OCEAN CITY

Carl W. Carlson

On September 27th at 8 a.m. we examined a small flock of shorebirds at the edge of the "Fulvous Tree Duck pond" in West Ocean City. The flock contained 8 Pectoral Sandpipers and one Buff-breasted Sandpiper. We examined the bird by scope and checked out all field marks including head shape, bill size, yellowish legs and buffy underside. Later that day Mrs. Gladys Cole told us that two other birders had told her of seeing a Buff-breast the previous weekend; their bird was in the grass at the "driving range" in West Ocean City near the bridge.

Marcia Lakeman later told us that she found a Buff-breast on Kent Idland about noon on September 27. Her bird was near U.S. 50 between Kent Narrows and Long Point.

5706 Lone Oak Drive, Bethesda

R E M I N D E R

County lists for 1964 should be sent to Hank Kaestner, 405 Hollen Road, Baltimore, Md. 21212, no later than February 10, 1965. Thank you!

1963 COUNTY BIRD LISTS

John Seddon Weske

1963 was the tenth year for which county bird lists have been compiled. The total number of avian species recorded in Maryland was 307, for the first time exceeding the 300-mark. In 1954, the summary's first year, the total number of species seen in the state was 279. In 1963, 280 were reported in Worcester County alone. To carry the comparison one step further, Worcester County in 1954 had a species total of 245. In 1963, 245 were recorded in Talbot County, which of course lacks an ocean-front habitat. The past year saw six other counties surpass 200 species: Anne Arundel (229), Dorchester (228), Prince Georges (209), Queen Annes (207), Kent (207), and Montgomery (203). Harford County, with 199 (plus a hybrid Brewster's Warbler, which does not count as a species in the total), came within a whisker of joining this group. Carroll was again the only county failing to reach 100.

In thirteen counties the species total for 1963 was greater than the 1962 figure, and in ten it was lower. Six counties set new all-time highs: Somerset, Harford, Talbot, Dorchester, Queen Annes, and Worcester. The number of species reported from each county is given below:

Garrett	121	Montgomery	203	Queen Annes	207
Allegany	121	Prince Georges	209	Caroline	171
Washington	167	Anne Arundel	229	Talbot	245
Frederick	169	Calvert	132	Dorchester	228
Carroll	86	Charles	149	Wicomico	170
Baltimore	179	St. Marys	181	Somerset	191
Harford	199	Cecil	169	Worcester	280
Howard	161	Kent	207		

Six species were recorded in 1963 that have not previously appeared in the county lists: Audubon's Shearwater and Rufous Hummingbird in Worcester County, Black-headed Gull and Scissor-tailed Flycatcher in Talbot, Lesser Black-backed Gull in Anne Arundel, and Lazuli Bunting in Baltimore.

Brewster's Warbler was found in Frederick County as well as in Harford, and a hybrid Lawrence's was also seen in Frederick.

Sixty species were reported from every county in the state. The names of these are omitted from the tabulated lists and are given here: Turkey Vulture, Red-tailed Hawk, Sparrow Hawk, Bobwhite, Killdeer, Spotted Sandpiper, Mourning Dove, Yellow-billed Cuckoo, Chimney Swift, Ruby-throated Hummingbird, Belted Kingfisher, Yellow-shafted Flicker, Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, Hairy Woodpecker, Downy Woodpecker, Eastern Kingbird, Great Crested Flycatcher, Eastern Phoebe, Eastern Wood Pewee, Barn Swallow, Purple Martin, Blue Jay, Common Crow, Tufted Titmouse, House Wren, Carolina Wren, Mockingbird, Catbird, Brown Thrasher, Robin, Wood Thrush, Eastern Bluebird, Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, Cedar Waxwing, Starling, Red-eyed Vireo, Yellow Warbler, Magnolia Warbler, Myrtle Warbler, Ovenbird, Kentucky Warbler, Yellowthroat, Yellow-breasted Chat, American Redstart,

	G a l a r r l s e	A	W	F	C	B	H	M	P	A	C	C	S	C	K	Q	C	T	D	W	S	W	Total	
					l	l	r	w	n	i	n	a	h	t	e	e	u	a	a	i	o	c	m	r
Common Loon				x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		x		16	
Red-throated Loon						x	x			x			x								x		5	
Red-necked Grebe						x								x							x		3	
Horned Grebe						x	x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x					x	x	x	15	
Pied-billed Grebe		x	x				x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	18	
Cory's Shearwater																					x		1	
Greater Shearwater																					x		1	
Audubon's Shearwater																					x		1	
Wilson's Petrel																					x		1	
Gannet																					x		1	
Double-crested Cormorant							x			x			x	x	x			x	x		x		9	
Great Blue Heron			x			x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	19	
Green Heron		x	x	x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	22	
Little Blue Heron						x	x			x	x		x	x	x			x	x	x	x	x	13	
Cattle Egret							x			x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		x	x	14	
Common Egret			x			x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x			x	x	x	x	x	x	16	
Snowy Egret				x						x	x			x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	12	
Louisiana Heron											x			x				x	x		x	x	6	
Black-crowned Night Heron				x			x						x	x	x		x		x	x	x	x	11	
Yellow-crowned Night Heron						x			x	x				x					x		x	x	7	
Least Bittern						x	x			x									x	x	x		6	
American Bittern						x	x		x	x	x							x	x		x	x	9	
Glossy Ibis									x										x		x	x	4	
Mute Swan									x										x			x	4	
Whistling Swan		x	x			x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	16	
Canada Goose			x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	20	
Brant																x			x	x		x	4	
Snow Goose										x						x			x	x	x		5	
Blue Goose										x	x					x			x	x			5	
Pulvous Tree Duck																					x		1	
Mallard		x	x	x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	22	
Black Duck			x	x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	21	
Gadwall										x		x		x	x				x	x	x	x	10	
Pintail										x	x	x	x			x	x	x	x	x	x	x	13	
Green-winged Teal				x			x			x	x	x				x	x	x	x	x	x	x	14	
Blue-winged Teal		x		x	x		x	x	x	x	x			x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	19	
European Widgeon											x												1	
American Widgeon				x			x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	17	
Shoveler				x			x			x				x	x				x	x	x	x	9	
Wood Duck		x	x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x			x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	19	
Redhead				x			x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		x		14	
Ring-necked Duck				x			x	x	x	x	x			x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	16	
Canvasback				x			x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x				x	x	x	x	17	
Greater Scaup				x	x			x		x	x							x	x	x	x	x	12	
Lesser Scaup							x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	15	
Common Goldeneye				x			x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	15	
Bufflehead				x	x				x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	17	
Oldsquaw										x	x	x					x	x	x		x		9	
Harlequin Duck																					x		1	
Common Eider																	x				x		2	
King Eider																					x		1	
White-winged Scoter				x						x				x	x	x	x	x	x		x		8	
Surf Scoter										x							x	x	x		x		5	
Common Scoter																					x		3	
Ruddy Duck				x	x			x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	14	
Hooded Merganser				x			x	x	x	x	x			x	x	x			x	x	x	x	14	
Common Merganser				x			x	x	x	x	x			x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	14	
Red-breasted Merganser							x	x		x	x			x	x	x			x	x			12	
Black Vulture				x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	19	
Sharp-shinned Hawk		x	x	x	x		x	x	x	x	x			x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	22	
Cooper's Hawk		x	x	x			x	x	x	x	x			x			x	x	x	x	x	x	18	
Red-shouldered Hawk			x	x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	22	
Broad-winged Hawk			x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x			x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	21	
Rough-legged Hawk						x				x	x				x			x	x	x		x	11	
Golden Eagle																							3	
Bald Eagle				x			x	x	x	x	x			x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	18	
Marsh Hawk				x	x	x		x	x	x	x			x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	21	
Osprey				x	x		x	x	x	x	x			x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	20	
Peregrine Falcon							x			x								x	x		x		6	
Pigeon Hawk							x	x			x				x	x					x		10	
Ruffed Grouse		x	x	x	x																		4	
Ring-necked Pheasant				x	x		x	x	x	x	x				x	x			x	x	x		13	
Turkey		x	x							x	x									x		x	8	
King Rail							x		x											x	x		4	
Clapper Rail											x									x	x		5	

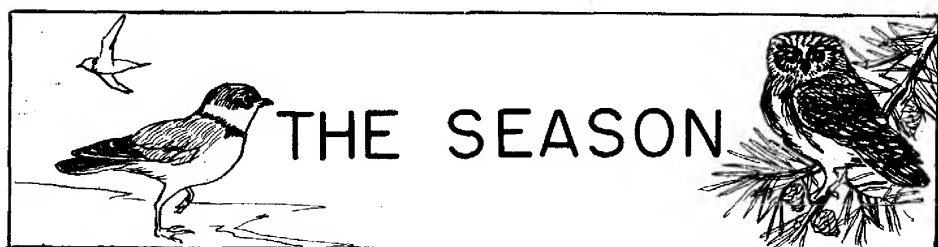
	G a l l i n u l e	A l a r i e	W a r b l e	F l a r i e	C l a r i e	B l a r i e	H l a r i e	M l a r i e	P l a r i e	A l a r i e	C l a r i e	S l a r i e	C l a r i e	K l a r i e	Q l a r i e	C l a r i e	T l a r i e	D l a r i e	W l a r i e	S l a r i e	W l a r i e	Total
Virginia Rail										x									x	x		5
Sora									x	x	x								x	x		6
Black Rail																						1
Common Gallinule				x															x	x		7
Purple Gallinule										x									x	x		1
American Coot				x			x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	16
American Oystercatcher																						2
Semipalmated Plover				x	x					x					x	x	x	x	x	x	x	11
Piping Plover																					x	1
Wilson's Plover																					x	1
American Golden Plover										x								x				3
Black-bellied Plover										x			x					x	x		x	5
Ruddy Turnstone													x	x							x	6
American Woodcock				x	x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	21
Common Snipe				x	x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	18
Whimbrel										x											x	2
Upland Plover						x				x	x										x	5
Solitary Sandpiper				x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x			x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	18
Willet										x				x							x	8
Greater Yellowlegs				x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	19
Lesser Yellowlegs				x	x		x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	17
Knot																		x	x			3
Purple Sandpiper																					x	1
Pectoral Sandpiper										x	x	x						x	x	x		7
White-rumped Sandpiper										x								x	x		x	4
Baird's Sandpiper										x												1
Least Sandpiper				x	x					x	x			x	x	x					x	13
Dunlin										x			x					x	x	x		7
Short-billed Dowitcher										x			x					x	x	x		6
Stilt Sandpiper										x								x	x		x	4
Semipalmated Sandpiper				x	x					x	x							x	x	x	x	10
Western Sandpiper										x								x	x	x		7
Hudsonian Godwit										x											x	2
Sanderling										x								x	x	x		5
American Avocet																			x			1
Wilson's Phalarope										x								x				2
Northern Phalarope										x				x							x	3
Parasitic Jaeger																					x	1
Glaucous Gull																					x	1
Great Black-backed Gull										x				x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	12
Lesser Black-backed Gull										x												1
Herring Gull				x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	21
Ring-billed Gull				x			x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	19
Black-headed Gull																						1
Laughing Gull							x	x						x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	15
Bonaparte's Gull							x	x		x	x							x	x	x	x	12
Gull-billed Tern																					x	1
Forster's Tern							x	x		x				x	x						x	10
Common Tern				x			x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	15
Least Tern										x				x	x	x					x	8
Royal Tern										x				x							x	6
Caspian Tern							x	x		x	x	x			x				x	x	x	10
Black Tern										x	x										x	7
Black Skimmer																					x	2
Black-billed Cuckoo							x	x	x	x	x			x	x						x	15
Barn Owl										x	x										x	8
Screech Owl				x	x	x	x		x	x	x			x	x						x	17
Great Horned Owl				x	x									x	x						x	15
Snowy Owl										x												1
Barred Owl				x		x				x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	20
Long-eared Owl																						1
Short-eared Owl										x											x	4
Saw-whet Owl																						6
Chuck-will's-widow										x					x						x	9
Whip-poor-will				x	x	x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	22
Common Nighthawk				x	x	x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	21
Rufous Hummingbird																					x	1
Pileated Woodpecker				x	x	x	x		x	x	x	x	x		x						x	19
Red-bellied Woodpecker				x	x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	22
Red-headed Woodpecker				x	x		x	x	x	x	x										x	14
Western Kingbird																					x	1
Scissor-tailed Flycatcher																					x	1
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher				x						x	x			x	x						x	9
Acadian Flycatcher				x	x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	22
Traill's Flycatcher				x						x	x										x	7

	G a l l s e	A l l s e	W a l l s e	F a l l s e	C l a s s i f i c a t i o n	B i r d s	H o u s e	H o u s e	M o u n t a i n	P a r t i c i p a n t	A m e r i c a n	C o n t r i b u t i o n	C o n t r i b u t i o n	S p e c i e s	C o n t r i b u t i o n	K e y s p e c i e s	Q u a n t i t y	C o n t r i b u t i o n	T o t a l	D i s t r i b u t i o n	W e s t e r n	S p e c i e s	W e s t e r n	Total
Purple Finch	x	x	x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x		x	x	x		x	x	x	x	20			
House Finch		x				x				x	x							x			5			
Common Redpoll																			x		1			
Pine Siskin		x		x		x	x	x	x	x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	19			
Red Crossbill						x				x					x		x	x	x	x	8			
White-winged Crossbill				x		x			x	x	x				x			x	x	x	10			
Ipswich Sparrow																					1			
Savannah Sparrow	x	x	x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	21			
Grasshopper Sparrow	x	x	x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	22			
Henslow's Sparrow						x				x	x				x		x		x		8			
Sharp-tailed Sparrow																			x	x	3			
Seaside Sparrow										x				x			x	x	x		7			
Vesper Sparrow	x	x	x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	22			
Lark Sparrow																					1			
Bachman's Sparrow		x																		x	1			
Tree Sparrow	x	x	x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	19			
Clay-colored Sparrow																					1			
White-crowned Sparrow	x	x	x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x			18			
Fox Sparrow	x	x	x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	22			
Lincoln's Sparrow	x			x		x	x		x	x	x				x			x	x	x	12			
Lepid Longspur										x											1			
Snow Bunting									x	x	x			x				x			7			

House Sparrow, Eastern Meadowlark, Red-winged Blackbird, Common Grackle, Brown-headed Cowbird, Scarlet Tanager, Cardinal, Indigo Bunting, American Goldfinch, Rufous-sided Towhee, Slate-colored Junco, Chipping Sparrow, Field Sparrow, White-throated Sparrow, Swamp Sparrow, and Song Sparrow.

Since the year 1964 is nearing a close as this report is compiled, observers throughout the state are reminded to mail in their county lists at the start of the new year. As statewide coverage improves, the summary becomes a more accurate reflection of the species distribution of birds in Maryland. Among the many contributors for 1963 were the following individuals and chapters: Garrett--David Bridge, Anderson J. Martin, George Robbins; Allegany--Anderson J. Martin; Washington--Dr. Ralph S. Stauffer, Alice Mallonee, Paul and Danny Bystrak; Frederick--John W. Richards, Fritz G. Scheider; Carroll--Bertha Poe, Dr. & Mrs. Elmer Worthley; Baltimore--C. Douglas Hackman, Gerald Elgert, Alice Kaestner; Harford--C. Douglas Hackman, Mel Garland; Howard--Rosamond Munro, David Bridge; Montgomery--Robert W. Warfield, David Bridge, Mrs. James Cooley; Prince Georges--Willet T. Van Velzen, Vernon Kleen, Glenn Austin; Anne Arundel--Harold Wierenga, Prof. & Mrs. David G. Howard, Vera Henderson; Calvert--John H. Fales; Charles--Vernon Kleen, Paul A. Stewart; St. Marys--James Banagan, Vernon Kleen; Cecil--Vernon C. Rossman, C. Douglas Hackman; Kent--Kent Co. Chapter, compiled by Edward Mendinhal; Queen Annes--Terry S. Moore, Fritz G. Scheider, David Bridge; Caroline--Caroline Co. Chapter, compiled by Roberta Fletcher; Talbot--Richard L. Kleen, Jan Reese, Willet T. Van Velzen; Dorchester--Harry T. Armistead, J.S. Weske, Jan Reese; Wicomico--Samuel H. Dyke, Chandler S. Robbins; Somerset--Samuel H. Dyke, Ted Stiles; Worcester--Chandler S. Robbins, Samuel H. Dyke, Gladys Cole.

Box 116, Sandy Spring



JULY, AUGUST, SEPTEMBER, 1964

Chandler S. Robbins

The late summer and early fall were characterized by continued drought, by an unusually cool August, a series of offshore hurricanes in September, and by only weak cold fronts in September. Precipitation for the four months from May through August was less than half the normal amount for stations within about 50 miles of Baltimore, and was the third lowest on record for Baltimore. The Lower Eastern Shore received slightly more than half its normal quota. The Allegheny Plateau fared best, with nearly three-fourths of its normal rainfall for the four-month summer period. The drought continued until the closing days of September, except near the coast where fringe effects of hurricanes Cleo and Dora brought relief earlier. According to the Maryland-Delaware Crop Reporting Service, yields of grain crops and tobacco were above average in Maryland in spite of the drought; rains, though light, had fallen at critical times. There also was good production of many of the wild fruits that are so important to wintering wildlife.

The fall migration of insectivorous songbirds was accelerated by the unseasonably cool weather that enveloped the northern two-thirds of the country in August. Average temperatures in Maryland were 2° to 3° below normal in August, but in the states north of us readings ran 3° to 6° below normal. Cold fronts that were followed by a temperature drop of 10° or more penetrated into Maryland on August 3, 9, 12, 19, and 24. Although several banding stations were operating in August, the banding was centered about week ends and does not permit close correlation with the passage of the cold fronts.

The four September cold fronts (Sept. 5, 12, 24, and 28) were disappointing in that they were not followed by the usual northwest winds that cause heavy concentrations of migrants along the coast. The same absence of northwest winds may explain in part the lack of western species at the Operation Recovery stations this fall.

Through the cooperation of the Audubon Naturalist Society of the Central Atlantic States, District of Columbia and Maryland observations reported by their members are made available, starting with this issue, for inclusion in our migration summaries. Their more noteworthy records will continue to be summarized in their quarterly Atlantic Naturalist; their arrival and departure dates, the bulk of which have not been pub-

lished in any journal in the past, will be a welcome addition to our migration tables. Their field records will be placed on permanent file at the Migratory Bird Populations Station in Laurel as are the records submitted by M.O.S. members.

The earliest fall arrival dates for 1964 are summarized by counties in Table 1. Underscored dates in the table represent banded birds. A "O" indicates that the species was not reported. A dash (--) indicates that the species was seen, but not on a significant arrival date. Species for which fewer than four arrival dates were reported were omitted from the table. The publication of fall arrival dates for species that are common summer residents requires brief explanation. The average observer does not detect fall arrivals of species such as the Black-and-white Warbler, Ovenbird, and American Redstart except when a heavy wave of migrants involves large numbers of these species. Bird banders, however, can detect a relatively small influx of unbanded birds, and observers at concentration spots along ocean and bay shores or in city parks find birds in habitats that they do not occupy during the breeding season. Banders, furthermore, by weighing birds and recording fat content, can often tell whether a particular individual has recently completed a migratory flight. Some birds can be seen migrating in early morning. Still others can be detected by their flight calls at night. Since the start of fall migration of summer resident species is harder to detect and so is less well known than is the start of migration of species from farther north, we make a point of including summer resident species in the fall arrival tables whenever sufficient information is available.

As usual, the migration table summarizes the observations of scores of contributors. We regret that it is not practical to acknowledge all of them by name, but the great bulk of the reports came from the following observers: Frederick County--Carl W. Carlson, Mrs. Sarah Baker; Baltimore City and County--Hank Kaestner, C. Haven Kolb, Mrs. Gladys Cole; Howard--Morris Collins, Mrs. Dorothy Rauth, Mrs. Rosamond Munro; Montgomery--Carl W. Carlson, Robert W. Warfield, Miss Lucille V. Smith, John S. Weske; D. C.--Mr. and Mrs. Robert L. Pyle; Prince Georges--Chandler S. Robbins, Vernon L. Kleen, Paul and Danny Bystrak; Anne Arundel--Paul and Danny Bystrak, Bill Anderson, Prof. and Mrs. David Howard; Kent--Mr. and Mrs. Edward Mendinghall, Mr. and Mrs. G. L. Gardner, Mr. and Mrs. L. Lenz; Caroline--Mrs. Roberta B. Fletcher, Marvin W. Hewitt, Mrs. Alicia Knotts, Mr. and Mrs. Aldridge Pepper; Queen Annes--David and Margaret Bridge, Mrs. Jane Church, Mrs. Marian Metcalf, Ted Stiles; Talbot--Jan Reese, Willet T. Van Velzen, Don Meritt, Robert Smith, Mrs. Mary Blumoehr, Mrs. Barney Bower; Worcester--Mrs. Gladys Cole, Chandler S. Robbins, Mr. and Mrs. Aldridge Pepper, Mrs. Jane Church.

Grebes, Herons and Ibis. A Horned Grebe still in partial breeding plumage was seen at Point Lookout on Sept. 6 by James Banagan and John Weske; the early date suggests that this bird was a summer vagrant rather than a fall migrant. The farthest inland records for the various heron species were as follows: Common Egret in Frederick County on Sept. 18 (Carl Carlson); 4 Snowy Egrets at Triadelphia Reservoir on Aug. 1 and 1 at Seneca on Sept. 12 (Robert Warfield), and 1 at Loch Raven in Baltimore

Table 1. Fall Arrival Dates, 1964

Species	Fred	Balt	Howd	Mont	D.C.	Pr.G	Anne	Kent	Caro	Q.An	Talb	Worc
Canada Goose	9/30	9/28	9/29	10/2	0	--	9/30	8/31	--	9/23	9/26	9/26
Semipalmated Plover	8/22	0	8/8	8/22	0	0	8/28	0	9/15	8/13	8/4	--
Spotted Sandpiper	--	--	0	8/1	0	7/24	--	--	7/15	7/25	8/11	--
Solitary Sandpiper	--	7/26	8/8	8/5	0	8/7	--	0	0	7/25	0	--
Greater Yellowlegs	--	7/26	0	0	0	9/2	--	0	9/7	7/11	7/19	--
Lesser Yellowlegs	--	7/26	--	--	8/12	--	0	0	9/10	7/11	8/4	--
Pectoral Sandpiper	--	7/26	0	8/1	0	0	0	0	9/7	8/9	7/29	8/29
Least Sandpiper	--	7/26	0	0	9/7	0	8/28	0	9/10	8/9	7/24	--
Semipalmated Sandpiper	0	7/26	0	0	0	0	8/28	0	--	8/9	8/4	--
Yellow-billed Cuckoo	--	8/28	--	--	--	--	9/21	9/4	9/3	--	--	9/6
Black-billed Cuckoo	0	0	0	8/13	0	--	0	--	8/19	9/22	0	9/5
Common Nighthawk	--	8/2	--	8/4	--	--	8/9	0	--	8/29	0	9/5
Yellow-shafted Flicker	--	--	--	9/4	--	--	--	9/21	--	--	9/20	9/5
Yellow-bel. Gapsucker	--	10/4	9/19	--	0	--	9/16	9/26	10/1	9/23	9/26	9/14
Eastern Phoebe	--	--	--	--	--	--	9/13	9/23	9/26	9/1	--	9/24
Yellow-bellied Fly.	0	0	0	8/14	0	8/24	0	8/28	9/15	8/9	9/6	9/6
Trall's Flycatcher	9/12	0	0	0	0	8/22	0	0	0	8/15	9/12	9/4
Least Flycatcher	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	8/20	8/19	8/23	8/30	9/5
Tree Swallow	--	--	0	7/1	0	--	--	8/20	--	8/1	7/24	9/3
Blue Jay	9/26	--	--	9/27	--	9/26	9/26	9/24	--	--	9/27	--
Brown Creeper	--	--	10/1	--	--	--	10/8	9/9	10/8	9/21	9/6	9/16
Winter Wren	--	--	--	--	--	9/26	9/25	9/27	--	9/21	10/24	9/27
Hermit Thrush	--	--	10/18	--	--	9/27	10/8	9/27	10/31	10/1	10/6	9/27
Swainson's Thrush	9/18	--	9/9	8/30	9/13	9/26	9/13	9/4	9/12	8/29	9/3	9/5
Gray-checked Thrush	0	9/12	0	9/20	9/26	9/19	9/12	9/9	9/25	9/12	9/12	9/15
Veery	0	9/12	0	9/8	--	8/22	--	8/21	9/10	8/15	8/27	9/6
Golden-cr. Kinglet	--	10/19	10/7	10/14	--	10/3	10/20	10/3	--	10/3	10/8	10/3
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	9/18	10/4	9/23	10/3	--	9/27	9/26	9/24	9/24	9/19	9/26	9/16
Cedar Waxwing	9/12	--	8/14	9/21	--	--	9/2	9/7	--	8/8	8/16	9/5
Philadelphia Vireo	9/18	9/12	0	0	9/13	0	0	9/17	0	--	9/25	9/7
Black-&white Warbler	--	8/15	9/12	8/25	9/3	8/26	--	8/21	8/18	8/1	8/27	9/6
Worm-eating Warbler	--	9/12	--	--	7/11	8/26	--	0	0	8/15	0	9/5
Tennessee Warbler	9/12	9/12	9/16	9/14	9/27	9/27	9/26	9/7	0	9/1	9/12	9/5
Nashville Warbler	9/18	9/12	0	9/13	0	0	9/13	9/7	--	9/1	0	9/20
Parula Warbler	9/18	9/12	--	8/25	--	--	9/18	9/17	--	9/18	--	9/12
Yellow Warbler	9/12	9/12	8/27	--	--	--	9/16	9/7	8/24	8/15	--	9/6
Magnolia Warbler	9/12	9/12	8/30	9/1	9/17	8/22	9/12	9/7	9/7	9/1	9/6	9/5
Cape May Warbler	9/12	9/12	9/3	0	9/26	9/26	9/27	9/17	--	8/30	0	9/7
Black-thr. Blue Warbler	9/12	9/12	9/6	8/25	0	9/2	9/19	8/28	9/26	9/1	9/6	9/5
Myrtle Warbler	--	--	10/6	10/6	--	10/3	9/18	10/5	9/3	9/22	10/18	9/24
Blk.-thr. Green Warbler	9/12	9/12	9/10	9/24	0	9/2	9/12	9/7	8/24	9/1	9/27	9/12
Blackburnian Warbler	9/12	9/12	9/6	0	0	8/21	8/20	--	0	9/1	9/3	0
Chestnut-sided Warbler	--	9/12	8/23	9/19	0	8/27	9/19	9/16	0	8/15	9/3	9/6
Bay-breasted Warbler	9/12	9/12	0	0	0	9/26	9/19	9/20	9/24	8/8	9/20	9/6
Blackpoll Warbler	9/18	9/12	9/9	9/15	9/12	9/26	9/20	9/18	9/26	9/6	0	9/5
Palm Warbler	9/12	--	--	9/23	--	9/26	9/26	--	9/18	9/26	9/27	9/6
Ovenbird	--	--	--	8/19	9/1	8/22	--	8/21	8/24	8/8	8/23	9/4
Northern Waterthrush	0	9/12	0	9/19	0	8/7	8/24	9/4	9/2	8/1	8/28	9/4
Connecticut Warbler	0	9/12	0	0	9/20	9/26	0	9/26	0	9/9	9/6	9/5
Mourning Warbler	0	9/12	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	9/3	8/29	9/8
Wilson's Warbler	0	0	9/6	0	0	0	9/10	0	9/15	9/2	8/27	9/6
Canada Warbler	0	--	8/16	8/24	8/4	8/19	8/20	9/20	9/7	8/9	8/16	9/6
American Redstart	--	--	9/3	8/19	9/4	--	9/12	9/7	8/18	8/1	8/15	9/5
Bobolink	--	8/30	--	--	--	8/24	8/28	--	8/20	8/15	8/16	9/5
Baltimore Oriole	--	8/13	--	--	--	8/21	--	--	8/17	8/15	8/29	9/5
Rusty Blackbird	10/17	--	--	10/17	0	11/7	--	--	--	10/24	0	10/11
Rose-breasted Grosbeak	9/12	9/12	9/3	0	0	8/26	9/18	9/19	9/7	9/12	9/20	9/14
Indigo Bunting	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	9/21	9/16	9/8	9/12	9/15
Savannah Sparrow	10/3	0	9/30	--	0	--	10/11	10/3	--	9/3	--	9/18
Slate-colored Junco	9/18	--	10/6	--	--	10/10	10/6	10/5	10/14	10/10	10/18	9/24
White-crowned Sparrow	10/17	0	10/17	--	0	--	--	10/7	--	10/24	10/8	10/7
White-throated Sp.	10/3	--	9/28	10/2	--	9/25	9/24	9/18	9/24	9/23	9/27	9/24
Fox Sparrow	10/14	--	10/24	11/1	--	10/31	--	10/20	--	10/5	10/24	10/11
Lincoln's Sparrow	10/3	0	0	0	0	10/3	10/1	9/26	0	9/23	9/16	9/21
Swamp Sparrow	--	--	--	--	--	10/3	10/2	9/29	--	9/23	9/27	9/25

County on Aug. 1 (Hank Kaestner and Nina Lasagna); Little Blue Heron in Howard County on Aug. 11 (Mrs. Dorothy Rauth) and 4 at Loch Raven from July 18 to the end of August (Hank Kaestner); 7 Cattle Egrets at Denton on Aug. 23 (Kaestner); Black-crowned Night Heron in Baltimore County on July 30 (Bill Hilgartner); Louisiana Heron at Tilghman, July 12-21 and July 27, the first record for Talbot County (Jan Reese); and 5 Glossy Ibis at Tilghman on July 16, the second sighting for the county (Reese).

Ducks. Early waterfowl arrivals included 2 Green-winged Teal at Tilghman on Aug. 23 (Reese) and 2 at Loch Raven on Aug. 30 (Hank and Peter Kaestner), and all three species of scoters as follows: several hundred Surf Scoters (earliest Maryland record) off Assateague Island on Sept. 20 along with 34 Common Scoters; 7 Common Scoters at Ocean City on Sept. 1 (Robert Warfield); and 60 White-winged Scoters in Talbot County on Sept. 27 (Reese). A flock of 15 White-wings in Talbot County on Aug. 23 may have been summer vagrants rather than early migrants (Bob Smith).

Hawks. Bald Eagles were reported only from St. Marys, Caroline, and Talbot Counties: 1 adult, 1 immature, and 1 unspecified. A Sparrow Hawk was migrating as early as July 18 at Tilghman (Reese). Ten Pigeon Hawks were counted migrating over the Ocean City banding station on Sept. 21, setting a new high one-day count for this falcon (Kaestner).

Shorebirds. Some of the more interesting shorebird records appear as separate notes. Some other reports that deserve special mention are 10 Solitary Sandpipers at Loch Raven on July 26, 125 dowitchers and 100 Willets at Ocean City on July 11, and 112 Knots at West Ocean City on Aug. 15 (all by Hank Kaestner). Among early arrivals were Black-bellied Plover at Ocean City on July 11 and both species of yellowlegs at Kent Island on the same day (Kaestner).

Gulls. Hank Kaestner's observation (Maryland Birdlife 20:79) of migrating Great Black-backed Gulls off Ocean City on the very early date of July 11 helps explain these other mid-July reports of this northern gull: 12 (others) at Ocean City on July 11, 1 at Hart Island in Baltimore County on July 18 (Kaestner), and 2 at Tilghman on July 19 (Reese). New for Montgomery County were 3 Laughing Gulls seen by Robert Warfield over his home at Germantown on Aug. 26; this species is seldom seen away from tidewater.

Terns. David Pierce saw 30 Least Terns on July 18 at Hart Island, where they may be nesting. Jan Reese remarks that Royal Terns are becoming more frequent as fall vagrants in Talbot County; 1 or 2 birds were seen on several dates from Aug. 30 to Sept. 20 (Reese and others); 2 others were at Blackistone Island in St. Marys County on Sept. 6 (Banagan and Weske). Robert Warfield submitted an impressive list of well-documented inland observations of Forster's and Common Terns: 4 Commons at Triadelphia Reservoir on Aug. 22; and, on the same day, 3 Forster's over the Monocacy River at Lilypons in Frederick County and 8 at Seneca; 20 Forster's at Seneca on Sept. 12, 3 on the 19th, and 8 on the 20th. The Lilypons birds are believed to be the first recorded in Frederick County. Two late Gull-billed Terns were seen at Ocean City on Sept. 20 (Kaestner).

Kingfishers. Little is known about the fall migration of the Belted Kingfisher because of the difficulty in separating migrating from summer resident individuals. The turnover in banded birds along the Patuxent River in back of my house has led me to suspect that wandering birds, if not true migrants, are present as early as mid-August. An interesting observation by Robert Warfield at Ocean City on Aug. 13 suggests the arrival of a migrant on this early date; at 7:20 p.m. he watched a male fly directly in from the ocean, land briefly on the north jetty, and then fly slowly toward shore. A glance at the weather map for this date shows that a cold front passed off the New England coast the previous night, followed by northwest winds of 9 to 14 m.p.h.--the very conditions under which we should expect to have migrants blown offshore.

Flycatchers and Swallows. The only Western Kingbird reported this fall was seen at Sandy Point State Park on Sept. 22 (Prof. Harold Wierenga). The Olive-sided Flycatcher apparently went unnoticed in central and eastern Maryland; the only report this fall was from Frederick County on Sept. 12 (Carl Carlson and Sarah Baker). Yellow-bellied Flycatchers were identified in 7 counties; all reports except one were of banded birds. This species was added to the Caroline County list on Sept. 15 (Mrs. Roberta Fletcher and Mrs. Essie Pepper). As many as 5 Yellow-bellies were banded in one day at Kent Point (Sept. 20), and the Bridges' seasonal total for that station was 33--which is more than most active field observers see in a lifetime. A concentration of about 2,000 Bank Swallows flying over an alfalfa field near Easton on July 25 and 26 far exceeds any Maryland report for recent decades (Bob Sharpe and Dick Kleen).

Ravens, Nuthatches, Creepers. Two Common Ravens were seen from Monument Knob, South Mountain, on Sept. 13 (Dan F. Keeney); this species is regular in Western Maryland, but is seldom seen east of the Hagerstown Valley. This is an "off" year for the White-breasted and Red-breasted Nuthatches. None of the Eastern Shore banding stations recorded the White-breasted during the period, and the only Red-breasted was found at Ocean City on Sept. 18 (Robbins). Nesting of the Brown Creeper on the coastal plain of Maryland was nearly confirmed this summer when Paul and Danny Bystrak watched an adult with food in its beak disappear under the loose bark of a dead tree at the Patuxent Wildlife Research Center on July 10 and 15. Unfortunately, the tree was in an impoundment and the supposed nest site too high to be reached from a boat.

Wrens, Vireos. Fritz Scheider found 2 Bewick's Wrens at Indian Springs in western Washington County on July 4; this was the easternmost report for this season. Nine Philadelphia Vireos, 2 Warbling Vireos, and 129 Red-eyed Vireos were among 1,032 birds picked up under Baltimore's 1,000-foot candelabrum antenna on Sept. 12 by Hank Kaestner; further details of this incident will be reported separately by Mr. Kaestner.

Warblers. The fall migration of warblers started extraordinarily early. A cold front that passed through Maryland on July 30 dropped the temperature at Oakland to 45° on the 31st and 44° on Aug. 1. As far east as Pocomoke City the temperature fell to 47° on the 1st. Fortunately, Aug. 1-2 was a week end and the Rock Run and Kent Point Operation

Recovery stations captured a sample of the migrants that had moved in response to the early cold front. At Rock Run Sanctuary in Harford County, Mel Garland banded a Nashville Warbler on Aug. 1, 9 days ahead of the previous State record; on the same day he banded an early Blue-winged Warbler, 2 Worm-eating Warblers, a Canada Warbler, and 2 American Redstarts, as well as four species of warblers that may have been summer residents rather than migrants. At Kent Point, David and Margaret Bridge banded a migrating Black-and-white Warbler, Northern Waterthrush, and American Redstart on Aug. 1. On the next day, Mel Garland netted 3 Blue-wings and a Prairie Warbler at Rock Run. Other early arrivals were a Magnolia Warbler banded at the Patuxent Wildlife Research Center on Aug. 22 (Robbins), a Black-throated Green banded at Denton on Aug. 24 (Fletcher), and a male Bay-breasted in spring plumage banded at Kent Point on Aug. 8, ten days ahead of the earliest Maryland record (Bridge). Some record-breaking high counts were obtained at the Baltimore TV antenna on Sept. 12 by Hank Kaestner: 78 Black-and-whites, 76 Magnolias, 28 Blackburnians, 60 Chestnut-sides, 25 Bay-breasts, and 331 Ovenbirds. Other high counts from the Kent Point O.R. station were: 61 Black-and-whites and 51 Magnolias on Sept. 1, 46 Ovenbirds on Sept. 2, and 70 Northern Waterthrushes on Sept. 12. At Ocean City, 26 Yellow-breasted Chats were banded on Sept. 24. Rarities were a Golden-wing X Blue-wing hybrid banded at Kent Point on Aug. 29 and a Yellow-throated Warbler banded at the same place on Sept. 1 (Ted Stiles).

Bobolinks, Grosbeaks, Sparrows. Twelve hundred Bobolinks were estimated in flight over Kent Point on Sept. 1 (Stiles). A high count for the Blue Grosbeak was obtained on Aug. 22, when 7 were banded at the Kent Point station (Bridges). Nine Henslow's Sparrows were found in the "Henslow's Sparrow field" on River Road past the Seneca turnoff on Aug. 4 (Robert Pyle). Except for 2 early Slate-colored Juncos in Frederick County on Sept. 18 (Carlson and Mrs. Baker), this species was notably late in arriving; only 2 were banded in September, both at Ocean City.

Migratory Bird Populations Station, Laurel

REPORT OF AUDUBON NATURE CAMP, MAINE, 1964

Laddie Flyger

Several years ago, I read Helen Cruickshank's book "Bird Islands Down East." Her descriptions of the birds of the Maine coast, which she studied from the island, were so exciting that ever since then I had wished to go there myself. Thus, the trip which the M. O. S. so kindly sponsored was the fulfillment of a long-cherished dream. I especially wish to thank those of you whose support of the Helen Miller fund made it possible for me to go: and all whose backing and enthusiasm meant so much.

The three of us, Reida Longanecker, Alta Gras and I, had an exceptionally pleasant trip together, and thoroughly enjoyed the many and varied experiences at the camp. We found that the program at the

Maine Audubon Camp is a very stimulating experience; however, in some ways, it was very different than any of us anticipated. There was much less emphasis on birding than we would have liked; in fact, the bird walks were scheduled only every other day and there were no "early morning trips."

Instead, we were put into interest groups; Alta Gras took the Plant Life, while Reida and I were in the Marine Life group. In this group, we studied different areas of salt water, a southern exposure tidewater pool and a freshwater pond and stream. We dug and steamed clams, mussels and periwinkles on the beach, dragged for plankton and dredged on different types of bottoms, such as sandy, rocky and mud.

The main purpose of the program there was to instill the Audubon concept of conservation and the inter-relationship of plants and animals. Although the Audubon Society primarily makes one think of birds, the concern at the camp was with the entire natural community. So, the importance of the ecology was greatly stressed, that is, the whole chain of inter-relationships, beginning with the heat and energy created by the sun, the value of waters, and how all living organisms, plant and animal, vertebrate and invertebrate are affected by it.

The Audubon Camp is on Hog Island, which is one of the islands in Muscongus Bay. Those islands were named after the farm animals raised in the area in the days when fishing and farming provided the principal livelihood. The Todd Wildlife Sanctuary is named for the woman whose foresight and interest in nature rescued Hog Island from lumbering operations. In cooperation with John H. Baker, then president of National Audubon, the island was obtained and the first camp session was opened in 1936. In 1961, one of our own members, Elizabeth Slater, was present when Mrs. Todd's daughter, Mrs. Millicent Todd Bingham, presented the deed to the island to the National Audubon Society in a ceremony also attended by Roger Tory Peterson and Rachel Carson. Mrs. Bingham is a fascinating lady and we were fortunate to have her speak to us one evening on the history of this "Down East" country.

Like the islands in Chesapeake Bay, those in Muscongus Bay were once hill tops, which long ago were sunk in the drowned valleys. Being on a foggy coastal island, greatly affected by the sea winds, Hog Island had a climate all its own completely different than that of the sweltering mainland. The readings at the weather station were a very important part of the daily program since the scheduling of trips by the boats hinged on the vagaries of the prevailing wind. The trips, therefore, were always tentative until the last minute.

The moisture brought in by the frequent fogs promoted luxuriant growths of the Usnea Moss commonly called Old Man's Beard. This growth affords ideal breeding sites for the Parula Warblers who depend on either this lichen, or Spanish moss in the south for their nest building. Since this is an evergreen climax forest, American Redstarts claimed territories in the spruces, Yellowthroats and Yellow Warblers nested in the seaside bayberries, willows and birches, while Black-throated Greens nested near the blow-down area.

The blow-down area is a study in itself. It was created ten years ago, in 1954, when Hurricane Carol roared across a narrow neck of the peninsula and uprooted everything in its path. After this natural devastation, Nature began the rebuilding cycle from wasteland to climax forest. The area is now in an intermediate phase as indicated by the luxuriant growth of Hay-scented Fern. This indicator plant is helping to prepare the way for small shrubs and nurse trees such as bayberry, birch and willow. Eventually, the climax of Red Spruce will return.

Many species of birds other than those already mentioned frequent the area. We saw one Red Crossbill during our stay. Because their movements are so erratic, we were not treated to the sight of flocks of Crossbills reported by visitors in other years. Purple Finches paid daily visits to the feeders with the Song Sparrows. The Olive-sided Flycatcher and Solitary Vireo also frequented the island.

As time flew by, and we became saturated with information, I found that my growing concern was for a program for the junior members of our Anne Arundel Chapter. Since the most dedicated youngsters are already good at listing, and are past the Junior Audubon Club age, this wasn't easy. After sounding out most of the staff members and other bird club campers, it became more and more apparent that we should seek help at our own State level. I believe that the following suggestions are applicable to our situation:

First - the youngsters should be encouraged to participate in the annual counts, beginning by helping with the recording. This will increase their knowledge while being in the field with a competent adult leader; it also will make them feel that they are making a worth-while contribution.

Second - we could help them set up breeding census areas as outlined in Doug Hackman's article in the March '64 issue of Maryland Bird-Life; and the information sent to Patuxent.

And Third - we should give them an introduction to an active bird-banding program. If bird-banding could be sponsored in our chapter it would provide an educational factor, since seeing a bird at close range is quite different than viewing it in the field; it would stimulate interest in the Operation Recovery program, and it would provide a valuable argument for the establishment of a sanctuary in our County.

I have already talked with Mrs. Lawson, who is the leader of Baltimore's Junior Nature Club. We made tentative plans for a joint meeting at Cylburn Mansion; and perhaps, later on, a combined week-end at Rock Run Sanctuary.

In looking back, I feel that the most valuable aspect of these two weeks was the introduction to the excellent reference and resource materials. In fact, they threw us so much information that it is impossible to go into all of it now.

THE PRESIDENT'S PAGE

There is no more appropriate greeting for a December issue of Birdlife than to say a "Merry Christmas to each and everyone".

Let us then stop a moment to consider our blessings and rededicate our lives to serve God and our Country. Let us also reaffirm our belief in the ideals and purposes of M. O. S. This will not only bring us the personal joy of birding but will also challenge us to share our knowledge with others; to educate our young in nature lore; to assume a responsibility for creating, developing and preserving our Sanctuaries.

And speaking of sanctuaries, the Talbot Chapter has been able to add seventeen more acres to our Mill Creek property and Mrs. R. R. Spring of Oxford, Maryland, has given us an additional thirty acres to be known as "The Spring Memorial Sanctuary".

May I remind our members that beginning in January, 1965, the Laboratory of Ornithology at Cornell University will operate a nest record card program on a continent-wide basis. This will not infringe on the M. O. S. program which is so capably handled by David and Margaret Bridge of our Patuxent Chapter. When spring comes they will need our added effort and cooperation to broaden the scope of this endeavor. Dave and Margaret are now the Breeding Bird Census Editors for Audubon Field Notes. So let's give them our full support.

My thanks to everyone for making 1964 such a successful year. My most sincere good wishes for the coming 1965.

Dorothy A. Mendinhall

EARLY GOSHAWK OVER SOUTH MOUNTAIN, FREDERICK COUNTY

Carl W. Carlson

While driving up the eastern slope of South Mountain on old U. S. 40 about 7 a.m. on September 12, we saw a very large hawk flying toward us with 3 crows. We stopped in time to see it clearly as it passed over. The wings were the typical accipiter shape. The tail seemed disproportionately long even for so large a bird. The underside had no conspicuous markings. Wing spread was at least 12 inches wider than that of the 3 Common Crows whose caw identified them. We watched the Goshawk fly southeast for a long way before losing sight of it. All the time it was in sight it used the flap-flap soar style. On the basis of the bird's size, shape, and flight pattern we identified it as a Goshawk. The date is appreciably earlier than the September 28 sighting mentioned by Stewart and Robbins but close to one on September 15 in Highland County, Virginia, listed by Murray in Checklist of Birds of Virginia.

5706 Lone Oak Drive, Bethesda

BAIRD'S SANDPIPER and GOLDEN PLOVER on KENT ISLAND

Carl W. Carlson

On September 26th I found a brightly colored Baird's Sandpiper in a fresh water pond one-half mile west of Fort Manor Plantation on Kent Island on the road to David Bridge's Kent Point netting station. The bird was bright tan on head, neck, throat and upper breast. The back was strongly marked in the scaly pattern. Wing tips clearly extended beyond the tail. It was feeding with one White-rump and two Semi-palmated Sandpipers, thus permitting exact comparison. When driving back to U. S. 50 we found three Golden Plovers feeding beside the road.

5706 Lone Oak Drive, Bethesda

IN MEMORIAM

MRS. MARY BUCKNER

Mrs. Buckner had many years of service on various committees of Harford County Bird Club and was the most active member in getting new members and welcoming them. She passed away on December 11, 1964.

MISS STELLA E. BROWN

Stella E. Brown, a member of the Baltimore Chapter of the Maryland Ornithological Society died at Westminster, December 8, 1964.

Miss Brown was known for her many conservation interests. While on the faculty at Towson State College, she worked long and hard to make her dream for the Glen a reality. The Glen is a wooded outdoor laboratory on the Towson campus.

BALTIMORE CHAPTER - JUNIOR PROGRAMS

Bird walks at Cylburn on Saturdays at 8 A.M. on January 23, February 6, February 20, March 6, March 20, 1965.

Bird banding demonstration and walk at 8 A.M. and 9:30 A.M. on April 3, 1965.

MARYLAND BIRDLIFE

Published Quarterly by the Maryland Ornithological Society, Inc.
to Record and Encourage and Study the Birds of Maryland

Editor:	Chandler S. Robbins, Patuxent Research Center, Laurel
Asst. Editors:	Mel Garland, 36 Burke Ave., Towson, Md. 21204
Editorial Board:	C. Douglas Hackman, Vernon Kleen, Mrs. C. Gordon Taylor
Productions:	Gladys H. Cole, Mildred F. Cole, Mel Garland, Shirley H. Geddes, Hank Kaestner, Ted Van Velsen, Dorothy A. Mendinhall

COMING EVENTS

- Jan. 28 PATUXENT Monthly meeting 7:45 P. M. Equitable Trust Co. Bldg., Main St., Laurel. Speaker: Morris Collins
- Jan. 28 BALTIMORE First of six Thursday evening seminars in Ecology. Clyburn Mansion 8 P. M. Field trip March 13.
- Jan. 30-31 BALTIMORE Winter weekend. Bombay Hook, Little Creek, Ocean City. Leader: Mrs. Richard D. Cole. VA 3-2650 or HA6-0190
- Feb. 3 KENT Monthly meeting. Louise Ruhnka, Speaker.
- Feb. 4 BALTIMORE Seminar 8 P.M.
- Feb. 4 FREDERICK Monthly meeting. Comments and pictures of birds by Dr. Bertram Haines.
- Feb. 5 ANNE ARUNDEL Monthly meeting 8 P.M., Annapolis High School. "A Look at Changes at Rock Run Sanctuary" by Gladys Cole
- Feb. 6 BALTIMORE Perry Point and Susquehanna River for wintering waterfowl. Leader: Mr. Rodney Jones (HU6-3442) Meet Edgewood Diner, Rte 40 East, 8 A.M.
- Feb. 10 MONTGOMERY Monthly meeting 8 P. M. in Auditorium of Perpetual Building Ass'n., 7401 Wisconsin Ave., Bethesda
- Feb. 11 BALTIMORE Seminar
- Feb. 12 BALTIMORE Monthly meeting celebrating 20th Anniversary of M. O. S. Dessert 7:30 P.M. at Northwood-Appold Church, Loch Raven Blvd. at Belvedere Ave. Mr. Ray J. Beasley of Newport News, Va., charter member of M.O.S. will show nature slides. Make reservations with Mrs. Robert Kaestner by Feb. 1st.
- Feb. 13 PATUXENT Feeding station trip. Meet 8:30 A.M. at 9th and Montgomery, Laurel. Leader: Eleanor Robbins
- Feb. 18 BALTIMORE Seminar
- Feb. 19 TALBOT Monthly meeting
- Feb. 20 ANNE ARUNDEL A visit to the Howard's garden sanctuary 8:15 A.M. 137 Monticello Ave., Annapolis
- Feb. 21 BALTIMORE Blackwater National Wildlife Refuge and Elliott Island. Leaders: Mr. & Mrs. Malcolm Thomas (VA3-1132). Meet Sandy Point Park outside toll gate, 8:15 A.M.
- Feb. 21 TALBOT Trip to Ocean City
- Feb. 23 PATUXENT Monthly meeting 7:45 P. M. Equitable Trust Co. Bldg. Speaker: Earl Baysinger

- Feb. 23 TALBOT Audubon Lecture "Canada's Mountain Wilderness" by Edgar T. Jones
- Feb. 24 ALLEGANY Monthly meeting 7:30 P. M. "Birds of Europe" by Andy Martin
- Feb. 25 BALTIMORE Seminar
- March 3 KENT Monthly meeting. Speaker: Richard Kleen on West Indies trip.
- March 4 BALTIMORE Seminar
- March 4 FREDERICK Monthly meeting. Speaker: Lt. Donald McKnight, Fort Detrick, on "Waterfowl"
- March 5 ANNE ARUNDEL Monthly meeting 8 P.M. "Backyard Research" by Jean Worthley
- March 5 HARFORD Monthly meeting. Illustrated talk by David Smith
- March 7 TALBOT All day trip to Patuxent Refuge
- March 12 BALTIMORE Monthly meeting. "Big Bend Country of Texas" by Mr. Wm. J. Schwarting, Ass't Dir. of Maryland Academy of Sciences.
- March 13 BALTIMORE Seminar field trip
- March 14 KENT Field trip to Blackwater Refuge. Leader: Dr. Gibson
- March 16 BALTIMORE On with the Spring at Lake Roland. First of 11 consecutive Tuesday migration walks. Leader: Mrs. Robert Kaestner. Meet at Lake & Roland Ave. 8 A.M.
- March 18 MONTGOMERY Monthly meeting 8 P. M.
- March 19 TALBOT Monthly meeting.
- March 20 ANNE ARUNDEL 8:15 A. M. Work Day at Mill Creek Sanctuary, Talbot County. Bring tools and lunch. Leaders: The Hodgmans (263-3770)
- March 20 BALTIMORE Loch Raven for migrating waterfowl. Leader: Mr. Hank Kaestner
- March 20 TALBOT Sanctuary work party with Anne Arundel Club.
- March 23 PATUXENT Monthly meeting 7:45 P. M.
- March 23 BALTIMORE Lake Roland
- March 24 ALLEGANY Monthly meeting 7:30 P. M. Speaker: Mr. Ted Brookhart of Natural Resources Institute, on "Waterfowl Conservation"
- March 26 BALTIMORE Annual Spring Lecture, "Where Land Meets Sea" by Mr. J. Donald Sutherland of Washington, D.C., at Dumbarton Auditorium. Tickets \$1.00. preferably in advance from Mrs. Robert Kaestner, DR7-8990
- March 28 BALTIMORE Birdbanding demonstration and Open House, 2 P.M. sponsored by Cylburn. Bander: Mrs. Richard Cole
- March 30 BALTIMORE Lake Roland
- April 1 BALTIMORE Shorebird Identification Class. Cylburn 7:30 P. M. - 10 P. M. Leader: Mr. Malcolm Thomas VA3-1132
- April 1 FREDERICK Monthly meeting. Film and election of officers.
- April 1 TALBOT Audubon Lecture "Inherit the Wild", by D. J. Nelson

- April 3 ANNE ARUNDEL 8 A.M. morning walk and annual meeting. River Road to Palisades on Severn. Meet at D. Mumford's, Md. 178, opposite Epping Forest entrance.
- April 3 BALTIMORE Tinicum March Wildlife Preserve. Bus trip. Make reservations with leader, Dr. Elizabeth Fisher (HO7-0676) by March 19
- April 4 BALTIMORE Courtship flight of Woodcock at dusk near Loch Raven. Leader: Mr. C. Haven Kolb, Jr. 5:50 P. M. 866-8109
- April 6 BALTIMORE Lake Roland
- April 7 BALTIMORE Bird walks at Cylburn, sponsored by Natural History Society on 8 consecutive Wednesdays. 7-9 A.M. and 9-11 A.M.
- April 8 BALTIMORE Warbler Identification class Leader: Mr. Chandler Robbins. Cylburn 7:30 - 10 P. M.
- April 9 BALTIMORE Monthly meeting and election of officers. Speak Speaker: Mr. Kenneth Chambers of Am. Museum of Natural History, N.Y. "Wildlife in our National Parks". Pratt Library 8 P.M.
- April 27 PATUXENT Monthly meeting 7:45 P. M.
- April 10 BALTIMORE Cylburn Trails for early spring arrivals. Leader: Mrs. George Bleul (ID5-2130) 8 A.M.
- April 11 TALBOT 7 A.M. breakfast hike. Hostess: Harriet McCord
- April 13 BALTIMORE Lake Roland
- April 17 ANNE ARUNDEL Patuxent Research Center tour, banding and lunch. Leader: A. Gras (263-4703)
- April 18 KENT Field trip to Assateague Island. Leader: G. L. Gardner
- April 18 TALBOT 7 A.M. breakfast hike. Host: Mr. William Chaplin.
- April 20 BALTIMORE Lake Roland
- April 23-25 EBBA Eastern Bird Banding Association Convention at Ocean City, Md. Information: Mrs. R. D. Cole at VA3-2650 or HA6-0190
- April 24 BALTIMORE Loch Raven for spring arrivals. Leader: Mr. Charles Buchanan (ID5-8305) 8 A.M.
- April 24 KENT Field trip
- April 25 BALTIMORE Chesapeake & Ohio Canal Botany-Bird Walk. Leaders: Dr. Elizabeth Fisher (HO7-0676), Mrs. Carl Francis (NO5-3943) and Mrs. Robert Kaestner (DR7-8990)
- April 25 TALBOT Breakfast Hike, Hostesses, Dottie Bowman and Stewart DeButts. Meet Easton, 7 A.M.
- April 27 BALTIMORE Lake Roland
- April 28 ALLEGANY Monthly meeting 7:30 P.M. Botany seminar. Mr. Wm. Leeson. Guest: Mrs. Edward Mendinhall, State M. O. S. President.
- April 30 TALBOT Monthly meeting. "Report on West Indies Trip" by Richard Kleen.

- May 1 STATEWIDE BIRD COUNT
- May 2 BALTIMORE Mill Creek Sanctuary. Leaders: Mr. Richard Kleen, Talbot Chapter President, and Dr. W. Rowland Taylor, Baltimore Chapter President.
- May 2 TALBOT Breakfast hike, 7 A.M.
- May 4 BALTIMORE Lake Roland
- May 6 FREDERICK Monthly meeting. Dr. Walter Foster to speak on status of proposed dams.
- May 7-9 M. O. S. CONVENTION at Ocean City, Md. Make own seservations at Hastings-Miramar before May 1st.
- May 8 BALTIMORE Lake Roland for those unable to attend the Convention. Leader: Mr. William Corliss (N08-6047). Meet Lake & Roland Aves. 7 A.M.
- May 11 BALTIMORE Lake Roland
- May 13 BALTIMORE Pleasantville & Countryside for warblers. Leader: Mrs. Carl Lubbert (DR7-6346)
- May 15-16 TALBOT Weekend at Carey Run Sanctuary in Garrett County
- May 16 BALTIMORE Rock Run Sanctuary. Mr. Mel Garland and Mrs. Nicholas Kay (VA3-1533), Leaders.
- May 16 TALBOT 7 A.M. Breakfast Hike
- May 16 KENT Botanical field trip. Leader: Dr. Elmer Worthley.
- May 18 BALTIMORE Lake Roland
- May 22 ANNE ARUNDEL Bird Walk 8 A.M. Magothy recollections. Leader: Mrs. E. G. Riley (647-3999)
- May 22-23 BALTIMORE Chincoteague-Assateague Island, Va., trip. Field leader: Mr. Ted VanVelzen of Migratory Bird Populations Station, Patuxent Research Center. Leader for information and reservations at Channel Bass Hotel: Miss Grace Naumann (DR7-9032)
- May 23 ALLEGANY Carey Run Sanctuary field trip 9 A.M. Leader: Mr. Ken Hodgdon
- May 23 FREDERICK Annual picnic at Seneca
- May 25 BALTIMORE Lake Roland
- May 29 BALTIMORE Catoctin Mt. & Buckeystown. Leader: Mr. Vernon Kleen
- June 3 FREDERICK Monthly meeting. Speaker: Dr. Paul H. Fluck, Washington Crossing Nature Education Center.
- June 8 BALTIMORE Picnic Supper in McKeldin Section, Patapsco State Park, and courtship flight of Nighthawk in Soldiers Delight at sunset. Leaders: Mr. & Mrs. Joshua Rowe. VA5-3076
- June 11-13 ALLEGANY Pre-camp training at Western Maryland 4-H Center
- June 14-19 ALLEGANY Junior Nature and Conservation Camp. Western Maryland 4-H Center.
- June 25-27 ALLEGANY Anniversary weekend. Chairman: Mrs. C. Gordon Taylor.